CANCER AND CANCER SYMPTOMS.*

IN issuing a second edition of this work, Dr. Cooper has added much valuable clinical matter, demanding the careful consideration of all homeopaths. What ever may be thought of Dr. Cooper's arborivital theories, there can be no question that he has done more than any other recent observer to supply data for elucidating the vexed question of dose. The ideal of homeopathic practice is to make a single impact of drug-force and wait for the development of its action before repeating. In acute cases this is not often practicable, and here repetition will probably remain the rule. But in many chronic cases it is different, and Dr. Cooper has shown how much may be

* *Cancer and Cancer Symptoms*. Chiefly arborivital treatment, with illustrative cases. Second edition. By Robert T. Cooper, M.A., M.D. London : C. Marten, 67, Wigmore Street, W. 1900.

effected and how much may be learned by practising with unit-impressions. One of the grand features of homeopathy is the opening it gives for workers on original lines. Dr. Cooper's arborivital practice is a development of homeopathy, and in no way antagonistic to it. Dr. Cooper works with tinctures prepared for the most part after Hahnemann's directions, and if it pleases him to call them " arborivital " we cannot see any harm in his doing so ; though we must confess we do not see much sense in it either.

In his new edition Dr. Cooper publishes a note on modern medical education, which is very much to the point :—

" The curriculum of education adopted for the practitioner of medicine is more absurd than the public imagines.

" In former days the young student had some chance of familiarising himself at starting with the practical work of his profession, for he became an apprentice or assistant to an experienced practitioner and had an opportunity of seeing what were the every-day duties of a working member of the craft.

" Now this is all changed ; the student is debarred by the Medical Council from doing any kind of work until he is qualified.

" In order to be qualified he has to keep studying anatomy and materia medica for two years before he is allowed to feel a pulse, look at a tongue, or give a dose of medicine.

" At the end of these two years, and before he has yet looked at a patient, he is examined in what ?—in materia medica ; in other words, in the actions and doses of medicine.

" Doses, did I say ? yes, the doses, *i.e.*, the largest amount of *medicine* that can be given short of poisoning the patient.

" If the diligent youngster dares to suggest anything above or below this standard, he is forthwith relegated to his studies ; to the enrichment of the Conjoint Board, and the abolition in himself of all sense of the fitness of things."